

JULY 20, 2004

**CITY OF GUNNISON COUNCIL
SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES**

7:00 P.M.

Following a Joint Work Session meeting with the Gunnison County Commissioners at the Hartman Rocks base area, the Special Session was called to order at 7:43 P.M., by Mayor Ferguson with Councilmembers Simillion, Stone and Duba present along with City Manager Collins, City Clerk Davidson, Police Chief Keehne, Parks & Recreation Director Ampietro, County Operations Manager Crosby, and several interested citizens. Councilmember Smits and WSC Intern Johnston were absent.

Possible Joint Action with Gunnison County Commissioners on Request from Free Riders Association for Use of Land at Hartman Rocks Base Area for Dirt Jump Course. City Parks & Recreation Director Ampietro and County Operations Manager Crosby came forward and addressed Council. Ms. Crosby informed Council that the County Commissioners had made some recommendations during their Special Session at the Hartman Rocks area. The Commissioners recommend phasing in the rhythm or dirt jump course over this and next summers. The beginner and intermediate trails with their associated jumps would be constructed and several of the trails on the east side of the proposed area be reclaimed this summer. At the end of October, the Free Ride Association would once again meet with City Council, County Commissioners and local homeowners to assess how the summer activities took place. Everyone would have a chance to see if the reclamation of the old trails was successful. If all of the interested entities agree that the trails are a good fit in the area, then the rest of the advanced trail construction and the remaining trail reclamation would take place next spring.

Councilmember Stone asked the Free Ride Association members in attendance if this sits well with them. Mr. Leonard stated a phased-in process was good and allowed the homeowners to see how the project will effect the area. Councilmember Stone further stated that Council has had very positive results in the past from well-organized grass root organizations such as the Free Ride Association. He commended Mr. Leonard and Mr. Kozlowski on their efforts and stated they have handled themselves well.

Parks & Rec Director Ampietro suggested the Hartman Rocks Planning Committee be consulted to determine what trails should be left open for pedestrian traffic through the site.

Mayor Ferguson and Councilmember Duba concurred that citizen groups can be very powerful. However, they want the Association to know if the area doesn't receive enough support or there are unforeseen problems at the area, then the City and County reserve the right to mitigate any hazards by removing the jumps if they are not used and fall into disrepair.

Kathy Matuszczak, a Hartman Rocks area homeowner, asked if this use of the base area will affect the annual Rage in the Sage race. Mr. Leonard stated, no, he was under the impression the race course had relocated to other areas.

Councilmember Stone moved and Councilmember Simillion seconded the motion to grant approval to the Free Ride Association to construct a dirt jump course at the base area of Hartman Rocks and construct the course in a phased project with the beginner and intermediate trails to be constructed this summer along with the reclamation of trails in the east portion of the area and to further include the Hartman Rocks Planning Committee in the decisions on what trails to close and reclaim.

Roll call vote, yes: Simillion, Stone, Ferguson, Duba. So carried.
Roll call vote, no: None.

City Council wished the Free Ride Association good luck in their project.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:53 P.M.

Mayor

City Clerk